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HOURS IN A LIBRARY.

A good many readers have lately been renewing their acquaintance with Leslie Stephen's "Hours in a Library," that series of sane and delightful essays in literary criticism, — readers whose attention has been thus happily reclaimed by reason of the reappearance of the four volumes in a new edition, and the recent publication of the author's "Life and Letters." His own opinion of the work, as expressed in a letter to a friend, was characteristically modest.

"I did not send it because — it is a very foolish reason — I am — do not mention it to any one — rather ashamed of it. I don't know why, but I have a suspicion that I am not a good critic, or perhaps it is merely a case of distorted vanity. Lowell bullied me out of a copy; but I regretted it, and could wish that the book should not have crossed the Atlantic. However, you will be merciful as a critic of mine. Don't say anything about the book when you write again, or it will seem to me as though I had been fishing for a compliment. This is written on the understanding that you will preserve a judicious silence in the interests of my moral health. Publicity, as you truly say, is a poison, and private flattery is not much better."

The whole tenor of Stephen's thought makes it obvious that there was no affectation in these words of self-deprecation, but justice to a book depends upon the public's verdict rather than the author's, and it has been rendered, in this instance, in terms that emphatically contradict Stephen's own estimate.

We are not, however, at this late day reviewing the "Hours in a Library," but have merely taken the title as a peg upon which to hang a few discursive general remarks. The expression "hours in a library" means many things to many minds, and what it means in any particular case depends wholly upon personal associations and experiences. To readers of old memoirs, and even more to those fortunate men and women who have the precious memory of a quiet period of youth and adolescence spent in some old-fashioned house with generous furniture of old-fashioned books, it means rich treasures of recollection, fond reminiscences of exploration and discovery and wonder, as the mind recurs to those old days with their atmosphere of delightful studies. To others, again, whose early joy in the companionship of books has been preserved as something more than a fading memory, who have not permitted the cares

of the workaday world to sever them from that source of primary inspiration, but still keep themselves surrounded by good literature and their daily lives sweetened by its ministry, the thought of "hours in a library" has a vital content, and expresses the occupation which still makes life best worth the living. A few are themselves producers of literature, and pay direct tribute to its beneficence, as Mr. Allen to Malory in "The Choir Invisible," and Mr. Quiller-Couch to Rabelais in "Sir John Constantine." But most of those who continue through all their lives to find in literature an ever-availing solace are content to absorb without giving out — except in the natural reactions of thought upon environment, — and the world never learns what *their* "hours in a library" have meant, and still mean, to them.

But the lapse of time works portentous changes in most human conditions, and in none more so than in this relation between men and books. The connotations of the term "library" have become so transformed that most men now advanced in years find themselves compelled to readjust both their ideas and their habits. In the old days, the word meant the private collection of books, upon which the personality of the collector was impressed, and which was hallowed by all sorts of tender and intimate associations. The qualifying adjectives "public" and "circulating" were used to indicate inferior kinds of libraries, that might be found useful upon occasion, but that could not touch the heart. They represented the utilitarian as opposed to the sentimental, and whenever those two appeals come into rivalry, we know which will win with all persons of gentle instincts. But to-day the library, in the good old sense, has become a rare phenomenon; for the word would surely be misapplied to these simulacra of libraries, filled with expensive and unread sets of "standard authors," which occupy certain conventional quarters in the homes of the rich, and are obviously nothing more than a part of the general scheme of luxurious decoration. And the public library in its typical form *(Bibliotheca Carnegiana)*, which is what most men think of nowadays when they think of libraries at all, is not a good substitute. It is housed in an imposing but cheerless building; it buys the books named in the A. L. A. model catalogue; it classifies them upon the Dewey system; and it has rules. To spend "hours" in such a place may be profitable for many practical purposes; it is not likely to feed the contemplative spirit, or prove stimulative to the production of essays in Stephen's manner.

Along with this (probably inevitable) evolution of the library into an institution, there has come into existence the modern librarian, — a very useful person, highly accomplished as an administrative officer, an expert in accession-listing and catalogue-making, a man alert to grasp and weigh every idea new to his craft, an admirable factor in an admirable scheme of organization. And yet something seems to be lacking. He is so completely a custodian of books, he is necessarily so occupied with their accidents, that he does not have the time, even if he have the disposition, to become their intimate. And since this is so, he cannot become the wise and helpful intermediary that his old-time predecessor was wont to be. The seeker for counsel will get from him bibliographical information in copious draughts; he will hardly get that fertilizing inspiration which flows from a mind saturated with humanistic culture. In this respect, the evolution of the type of the modern librarian has been analogous to that of the modern type of university president; it has been an inevitable evolution, we repeat, but it leaves us with a sort of wistful regret for the type that has vanished.

This subject was brought to the attention of the Narragansett Conference last summer in the address of President Hill of the American Library Association, who used the following words:

> "There are those who claim that the old style librarian who knew books has disappeared and his place has been taken by the modern librarian, who acts as the executive officer of the institution. Such critics sigh for the library of old, with its musty tomes and its air of seclusion and repose; they long for the return of the librarian with his quiet, dignified, studious air, and they resent the change to the utmost."

And then the speaker suggested a possible reconciliation of the two ideals, probably the only one possible for the large municipal library of our times.

> "To reach the highest degree of perfection the great public library must have not only its executive whose guiding hand will steer the craft through all kinds of business dangers, but also scholarly, studious men and women who know books and how to use them. Both are necessary to the welfare of the large library. The wise administrator is the one who, while keeping his eyes upon the needs of the whole system, has the ability to discover the specialists who are needed to round out the work of the library, and to place each in his own particular niche."

This is what Mr. Putnam has done with excellent results in our national library at the capital; it is what several of our larger cities are doing to the extent of which their resources will permit.

Discussing the same subject upon still broader grounds, President Faunce urged upon the Asso-

ciation the importance of encouraging the old "fattening" use of libraries as no less important than their use for purposes of research.

"The library must encourage slow, painful, thoughtful reading. . . . The habit of reading as a substitute for thinking is worth nothing, but is sheer damage to the mental fibre. . . . Our students need to use books not only as tools, but as friends. In the old days, when the reading of college students was far more promiscuous than to-day, they were accustomed to regard books almost as personal acquaintances, and there was a genuine exchange and reaction of writer and reader. The modern method of reading is far more accurate and definite than the older method, and is obviously effective in securing results. But it must be supplemented by the 'browsing' of former days, by the large horizons which come from being set free in the companionship of great minds."

The "hours in a library" which are spent in hunting down references and verifying citations are by no means wasted, but they are not the hours that contribute to the strengthening of the tap-root of the intellectual life, nor are they the hours which, in the retrospect, are recalled as hours of unadulterated delight.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE CHILDREN.

It was not so very long ago that children in the public libraries, like dogs in the parks, were unwelcome unless kept in leash by a responsible attendant. If one of tender years happened to stray into those awful precincts alone, he was gently but firmly shown to the door and told to run away. But all this is changed now, and some of our public library authorities are even raising the question whether the children are not getting more than their just share of attention, to the neglect of their elders.

The "story hour" which has come to be a recognized institution in our best libraries is doing as much as any other library influence to interest children in good reading. A certain period is set aside, — sometimes regularly each week, sometimes on special occasions or holidays, — when the children's librarian, or an expert story-teller from without who has both sympathy and discrimination, gathers the children about her and tells them the tales that form the basis of our best literature. Listening to stories is the natural approach to reading from books, and is the first step toward the acquisition of culture.

But it is not only in the reading-room that children are made to know and to love books. As Mahomet to the mountain, so the library goes to the child if the child will not come to it. The idea of the peripatetic library — the "travelling library" as it is now generally called — is in line with modern progress. In these twentieth-century days, space has been annihilated by rail and steam, inertia has been overcome, locality has been destroyed; the world is on wheels. What, then, so natural as the travelling library?

We are probably indebted to the Scotch for the germ which has developed into this important system of book-distribution. Early in the last century (in 1810, I believe it was), a collection of religious tracts was circulated in Scotland, augmented a few years later by books of standard literature and science. These "itinerant libraries," so-called, flourished for more than two decades, but finally died a natural death. Thirty years after their disappearance, Australia developed a peripatetic system, and somewhat later the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge sent out university extension libraries; but the travelling library in this country dates from 1889, and owes its origin to Mr. Melvil Dewey, Director of the New York State Library at Albany.

The travelling library is simply an extension of the state library, or in some cases (as in Wisconsin) of the county library, twenty-five or fifty or a hundred books being sent out at once and entrusted for three months or six months to the care of a responsible person who becomes a local or sub librarian. This local librarian loans the books — to children as well as to adults — under a simple code of regulations, returning the entire library when it has served its purpose, and receiving in exchange a new selection of books, thus keeping alive the interest of the readers and stimulating them to read. Stations are established in village shops and postoffices, often in farm-houses at some distance from the towns but conveniently located with reference to the rural population. In a number of states, travelling librarians are employed. The travelling librarian is a real literary evangelist, preaching the gospel of good books. He strengthens the hands of the local librarian, revives the flagging interest, establishes new centres of culture, and carries light into the dark places. What a field of usefulness is open to him! Coming into personal contact with hundreds of people, young and old, to whom the world of books is a *terra incognita*, he rescues many a country youth from intellectual starvation, fans in some the spark which shall kindle into genius, and in others not so gifted stimulates the intelligent use of the powers which they possess — insuring at least better crops and broader citizenship.

The transportation of the libraries from place to place offers a problem which each state is working out for itself. In some localities, notably in the South, the railroads, recognizing the philanthropy in the idea which underlies this library movement, are shipping the libraries without charge. In other parts of the country, the local centre pays a nominal amount to cover the cost of freight. Mr. Dewey strongly advocates, and has already put into commission in New York, a type of library wagon, driven by a trained librarian, who, after the manner of the religious colporteur of a former generation, goes from station to station carrying his books with him.

It may be asked how large a part the children have

in the travelling library. I answer, a very large part. In most libraries from one-fourth to one-third of the books are adapted particularly to children's use, and children are among the most devoted readers. In a small village in New York State, a girl of thirteen recently drew from a travelling library during the six months of its stay thirty-two books. A boy of fifteen drew twenty-five books. The statistics at other points show an interest almost as great.

Several of our large city libraries, notably the Carnegie Library of Pittsburg and the New York City Public Library, have adapted the travelling system to urban conditions, and are sending out into the tenements trained children's librarians bearing good books. The books, in libraries of from twelve to twenty volumes, known as "home libraries," are placed in the hands of certain families who agree to take care of them for a specified time and to loan them to such neighbors as may wish to read. Little circles are thus formed — for the most part of children, though grown-up members of the families join in them too. The library visitor comes once a week and talks to them, telling them stories, such stories as are told to the library children during the "story hour." Then she makes the connection between the story and the book, taking a volume from the case and reading a few interesting pages from it. After a friendly hour, she goes away leaving the seed to germinate. When one set of books are read through, she brings a new set and takes the old ones back — a little soiled, perhaps, but the city can well afford to burn them and buy more, for the books are making citizens, and these children who are learning to read good literature will not need as many policemen to look after them a few years hence, thanks to the library visitor.

Nor does this far-reaching philanthropy stop with the reading of books. The library worker gains the confidence of parents as well as of children. She learns the troubles and discouragements of the lower strata of society, and is able to give help. She does much of the work usually accomplished by the "friendly visitor" of the charitable organizations, and does it more effectively; for the class that of all others is most in need of aid and sympathy is shy in the presence of charity and often suspicious of the church.

Another important movement in library extension has to do with the placing of libraries in the schools, its aim being to bring into accord the work of the two great educational influences of the present age — the public library and the public school. When one stops to consider the many points at which the work of the librarian and the teacher overlap, it will be seen that a great saving of energy and an enormous gain in efficiency must result from this union. The function of the library is to put the right book into the right hands, — not only into the hands that are outstretched for it, but into those that most need it. The librarian, busied with the details of administrative work, — purchasing, classifying, cataloguing, keeping in order, — though she may have, and must have, sympathy with the children who frequent the library, cannot come into that close relationship with them which is enjoyed by the teacher, who has them with her six hours in every day, Sundays and holidays excepted, who directs their intellectual progress and comes to know their needs more intelligently and often more sympathetically than even the parent.

These considerations have led to the development of a system in which the public library places its resources at the command of the schools, the librarian giving of her practical knowledge of the books and the teacher of her knowledge of the child. The librarian visits the school and talks to the children, tells them how to "find things" in books, tells the younger ones a few good classic stories and suggests where they may find others, tells the older ones how to use a card catalogue, how to run down a reference, where to find good material to help them in their history and geography. The teacher makes individual application of the librarian's generalities, and fits a particular book to a particular want. The librarian is the specialist: she has at her fingers' ends the entire literary pharmacopœia, and is skilled in the uses of all sorts of material; but the teacher is familiar with the child's constitution and habits — a sort of knowledge quite as important. Consultation of this sort is in accord with modern practice, and is yielding pronounced results in schoolrooms where it has been tried. The books are supplied from the school library so far as the school library can meet the demand, but beyond that point the public library is drawn upon, and offers from its greater resources a wide range of reference material, and books on special subjects appropriate either to the work of the class or to the celebration of the annual festivals and the birthdays of great men and women. These books are sent to the schoolroom for reference or distribution, and the school is thus made, in effect, a branch library,—or, if you please, a travelling library station.

If the public library is convenient to the school, —and in villages it always should be,—the reference work is often best done in the library itself. This method has the double advantage of affording a quiet place in which the pupil may work without distraction, and of familiarizing him with the library — helping him to acquire the "library habit." If the alliance of school and library accomplished nothing beyond this, it would be well worth all the efforts that have been put forth in its behalf.

The object sought by both librarian and teacher is the culture of the child, particularly the development in him of a discriminating love of books; for this is the straight road to culture. The child is placed, by law, under the influence of the teacher during just those years when, if ever, the reading habit is formed and the trend given which determines the child's intellectual life. It is a critical period, and no agency should be overlooked which can contribute toward the end in view.

In such ways as these the public library is reach-

ing out after the children. In the country farm-house, in the city tenement, and in the schoolroom, as well as under its own roof-tree, it is bringing to them the knowledge of a great new world—a world of opportunity, of encouragement, of delight. It is extending their vision over distant lands and bygone centuries, acquainting them with the secrets of nature and the mysteries of science, opening their hearts to the sweet influences of poetry, and pointing out to them the paths of wisdom and of righteousness.

WALTER TAYLOR FIELD.

CASUAL COMMENT.

THE PRICES OF ENGLISH NOVELS, more particularly the prices at which they sell best, are discussed in a recently reported interview with that veteran publisher of sixty years' experience, Mr. Edward Marston, whose octogenarian reminiscences were lately reviewed in our pages. His observations are pertinent at this time of a supposed demand for a reduction in book-prices — in striking contrast with the marked advance in all the costs of manufacture. Many of Wilkie Collins's novels were published by the firm with which Mr. Marston was so long connected; and it is a curious fact that, whereas these works had an enormous sale in their three-volume form at half a guinea a volume, and generally a good sale in the one-volume form at six shillings, at two shillings they fell flat. (Query: might not this have been partly due to their having been already widely read in periodicals?) In the same way, all of Mr. Blackmore's novels were very successful as "three-deckers," and afterward not unsuccessful as six-shilling one-volume books; but they sold much less readily when offered for half a crown — with the single exception of "Lorna Doone." And thereby hangs a tale. The issue of this ever-charming story chanced to fall at the time of the marriage of Princess Louise to the Marquis of Lorne, and the impression prevailed that Lorna and Lorne were in some way connected,— a mistake that proved advantageous to all concerned. In the case of Black's novels the same pronounced disinclination to buy cheap editions manifested itself, and the half-crown reprints caused a serious loss to the publishers. Mr. Marston's experience seems to show that, leaving out of account the "penny dreadfuls" and the "shilling shockers," the British public prefers to buy its favorite fiction at a fair price, or about six shillings; and this preference is further illustrated by the poor sale of short novelettes unless they are made up and offered in six-shilling form, even though the matter contained be but a third or a quarter of that in the ordinary novel.

* * *

WHY MR. WRIGHT IS TO GIVE US A NEW LIFE OF PATER is explained in the publisher's announcement of the forthcoming volume. The biographer wishes to correct a number of "staggering errors" said to have been committed by previous biographers. "(1) It has been asserted that in boyhood and youth Pater showed no precocious signs of a desire to write. Mr. Wright shows that he was perhaps the most voluminous boy-author who ever lived. (2) It has been asserted that in childhood Pater never wrote poetry except a few humorous verses. Mr. Wright has in his own possession many hundreds of lines of serious poetry written by Pater in his early years, and can show that he wrote thousands of such lines. (3) It has been said without contradiction that Pater was popular at school. Mr. Wright shows on the contrary that nobody could have been more unpopular there. (4) It has been set down again and again in print that Pater's chief interest in his early life was philosophy. It was not so. His chief interest during his youth and early manhood was English literature. (5) Students of Pater will remember that a biographer asserts that his metaphysical studies did not destroy his strong religious instinct. On the contrary they did, and for many years Pater was quite severed from religion. (6) The legend found in most accounts of Pater — the legend that he wrote very few letters — is proved quite a falsification of the facts in Mr. Wright's 'life.' He wrote an enormous number of letters — as many as four hundred to a single friend, and most of them long letters." Well, we shall see what we shall see. As to the fifth item, Mr. Wright would seem to have set himself a difficult task, — to read the mind's construction in the writings of a man, and to read it so accurately as to tell just when faith and when skepticism predominated. It is pretty well known that at Pater's death he was thinking seriously of taking orders.

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"SUBTERRANEAN LITERATURE" IN GERMANY appears to have as large a sale as in our own and other countries. The monster editions of such hair-raisers as "Jack the Ripper," and similar manuals for the fitting of vagrant youth to follow careers of crime, pass unnoticed, in fact unsuspected, by the readers of Walter Pater, of Mr. Meredith, and of Mr. Henry James. But a German authority says that issues of seven hundred thousand copies of what we used to know here as "dime novels" are not unusual. Indeed, the dime novel, now apparently suffering a decline in this country, is ravaging the land of the Teutons, where most of the boys are said to prefer an American Indian story to any other tale. The frontier adventures of trappers and scouts, the prairie perils from wolves and redskins, the mighty encounters with the formidable grizzly bear — all these make the young heart of Germany beat with rib-rending throbs. This interest in stories of the Mohawk brand dates back as far as 1823, when Cooper's novels began to fire the blood of the juvenile reader. Imitators were not slow in following the trail blazed by the master; and now he is a feeble writer who cannot out-Cooper Cooper by several hundred thrills per volume. There are said to be at present in Germany some five hundred firms engaged in the production of Cooperesque tales, with three thousand travelling salesmen to place the direful output on the market. The illustrations vie with the text in sensational quality, and (alas!) a book of about two hundred and fifty pages can be bought for less than our dime.

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AN IRRITATING PRACTICE AMONG LIBRARY WORKERS is touched upon by the Boston "Transcript" in the course of some recent commendatory remarks about that energetic and indispensable library monthly, "Public Libraries," which has just entered upon its twelfth year. The practice referred to is that of librarians and library journals in the use, or rather the non-use, of capital letters and quotation marks. "What good does it do," asks the "Transcript," "to omit these from book titles, until an appearance of almost entire illiteracy is obtained? If it saves the time of the compositor it wastes that of the reader, for he has

to go back and read the title a second time to find out where it begins and ends. We know that this is the result of a library philosophy which taught that anything on earth could be sacrificed in order to save a few seconds' time, but that does not endear it to us. . . . Because our ancestors used what seems now an unnecessary number of capital letters, we are not justified in trying to abolish them altogether, any more than the fact that those ancestors wore lace, frills, and long wigs justifies us in suddenly rushing into the street without any clothes at all." It is sincerely to be hoped that "Public Libraries" may see fit to take the lead in doing away with some of these confusing, distressing, and freakish practices which, along with certain orthographical deformities, have crept into tolerance among library workers.

* * *

DREAMS OF AN ENDOWED THEATRE may still be permitted to hopeful souls, in spite of the fact that some recent local experiments in that direction could hardly be called inspiring. It may be that the idea may yet be worked out on a national basis; and it is to this form of it that Mme. Ristori addresses herself in her article in the January "Putnam," written but a few weeks before her death, — an article prompted by her interest in and her enthusiastic recollections of America, and by her reading in the theatrical journals some announcements of a project to establish an endowed national theatre in New York. She deplores the present state of affairs in the theatrical world, with its numerous "stars" and countless companies, all scrambling for a livelihood, to the detriment of high art and the discomfort of artists. "Should the example of Rome and Milan be generally followed," she writes, in very hopeful vein, after referring to the endowed theatres in those two cities, "the art of acting will steadily advance; we shall have fewer stars, but more really good companies. This is the solution of the difficulty that we have reached in Italy, and I shall be deeply interested in seeing how the same problem is solved in America."

* * *

BRUNETIÈRE'S SUCCESSOR IN THE FRENCH ACADEMY is yet unnamed, and the question of a choice is of interest to many outside of France as well as within. Mistral has been spoken of, and doubtless deserves the honor. But there is a difficulty. Our Provence poet is seventy-six years old, and at that age the grooves are commonly worn so deep that there is a rude jolt in getting out of them. He would have to visit Paris at least once if he accepted Academic honors, and Paris he has never loved. In fact, he has seldom left his paternal acres since the day when, asked what he meant to be, he replied, "A poet." With remarkable and admirable persistency he has remained true to his high calling and has lived the life he purposed to live. A lonely and even pathetic figure he may appear, holding himself aloof from the great world and deploring the mad rush of his countrymen from rural quiet and peace to urban din and strife; but there is grandeur in his solitude, and sublimity in his high ideal of religion and beauty as inseparably connected with a peaceful country life.

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AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM MR. H. G. WELLS which will interest Americans, and especially those who are students of the race question, is found in the following words attributed to him. "I have dealt," he says, in speaking of his writings on America, "very frankly with the color question, and it is quite possible that I may ultimately make it my subject and give a large portion of my life to it." Surely there is need of a prophet's wisdom in treating our vexed negro problem, and who knows what this prophetic novelist may accomplish if he carries out his half-formed plan? Half the seriousness he bestows on his mammoth rats and long-tailed comets and all the marvellous creations of the marvellous future might well be given to a few of the pressing problems of the living present.

* * *

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL WORK IN LIBRARIES can be made both creditable and useful, as is shown by the Cambridge (Mass.) Public Library, which has expended a part of its surplus energy in preparing and publishing a bibliography of Colonel Higginson. Few writers live to see a bibliography of their work that covers sixty-three years of literary activity, as this one does; and it is still more remarkable that in using this little book, as the veteran author has used it since its appearance, he is reported as unable to find a single error of importance. Four of Mr. Higginson's books have been translated into French, three into German, one into Italian, and one into modern Greek. Considering the difficulty, the impossibility rather, of turning dialect into another tongue, one notes with surprise a French "Vie Militaire dans un Regiment Noir." Seventy-eight books and articles about Mr. Higginson are entered in this interesting list.

* * *

RURAL FREE DELIVERY FOR LIBRARIES is following in the wake of rural free delivery of letters, and, according to reports, with equally happy results. A good illustration is furnished by the Free Library of Hagerstown, Maryland, whose library-wagon is now in the third year of its beneficent work of dispensing intellectual pabulum to the neighboring rural regions. Besides this, over sixty deposit stations are maintained throughout the county, and supplies of books are sent out regularly to numerous day schools and Sunday-schools. Although but five years old, this enterprising library circulates more than eighty-five thousand volumes annually with only about seventeen thousand volumes wherewith to achieve this result. Can a better record than this be shown?

* * *

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AS AN EDUCATIONAL FORCE is evidently growing in importance. An aggressively managed institution of this sort is that at Grand Rapids, Michigan, as appears from a recent circular issued by it under the title, "The Right Start," which is sent out to the young people of the city, with a personal letter from the librarian. "Have you ever thought of continuing your education while you are at work?" asks the circular; and it proceeds to make known the great educational opportunity open to all who choose to frequent the library, attend its free lecture courses, inspect its exhibitions, and read its books and periodicals. Such enterprise speaks well for the institution, and for the community in which it is located.

* * *

THE SMALLEST BOOK EVER PRINTED has just been published at Padua by the Salmin Brothers. This miniature curiosity measures only ten by six millimetres (about three-eighths by one-quarter of an inch) — a veritable thumb-nail volume, or in fact much smaller than any but a Tom Thumb's thumb-nail. Each page has nine lines, and though the print is extremely small it is perfectly clear and legible — to good eyes. This tiny booklet contains a hitherto unpublished letter from Galileo to Christina of Lorena.

The New Books.

The Hohenlohe Memoirs.*

Since the publication of Busch's life and letters of Bismarck, no book has created the stir in official Germany that has been roused by the "Memoirs of Prince Chlodwig of Hohenlohe-Schillingsfuerst." Lieutenant Bilse's "*In einer kleinen Garnison*" provoked indeed a tempest, but the teapot was small and soon emptied. This time, however, the matter is more serious. The Emperor has reproved the eldest son of the late Prince for permitting the indiscretion of publication; he has shifted the responsibility upon his brother, Prince Alexander, and he in turn upon Professor Curtius; while the latter blames the importunate publisher. Doubtless the printer's devil is the one ultimately to blame.

Prince Chlodwig von Hohenlohe-Schillingsfuerst was a Bavarian statesman, and during the important years 1867-1870 was at the head of the Bavarian ministry. Prior to that time he had filled a series of diplomatic positions that took him, first or last, to nearly every European capital. As a prince of the blood and related to various royal houses, connected by intimate family ties with Protestantism though himself a Roman Catholic, possessed of great wealth and broad culture, he was not only brought into intimate connection with all the leading men of his time, but in his diplomatic career he was informed as to the negotiations that led to many a check and counter-check in the political game of modern Europe. As a member of the Reichstag after the establishment of the Empire, then as Ambassador at Paris from 1874 to 1885, and from 1885 to 1894 as governor at Strassburg, he was not only in close touch with Bismarck up to the latter's retirement from office, but was intimately associated with the Emperor William I. and his successors. From 1894 till almost the end of his life he was Imperial Chancellor, resigning from that office in the Autumn of 1900.

Upon the occasion of his eighty-second birthday, in March following his retirement from office, the Prince requested Professor Friedrich Curtius to help him write his memoirs. He did not, however, live even to begin the work, and the task of fulfilling his wishes was left to his son, Prince Alexander, with whom Professor Curtius collaborated. We have, then, not an autobiography, nor in the ordinary sense a biography, but instead an annotated compilation of material upon which the Prince had expected to draw in refreshing his memory and in rounding out the story of his life. Private letters and journals constitute the bulk of this material, which has been made public, "so far," to quote Curtius, "as publication seems advisable." This limitation appears to have been taken somewhat easily, for certainly very much is included that so tactful a diplomat as Prince von Hohenlohe would have hesitated to give to the public. The struggle, resulting from aggression, compromise, and concession, out of which the national unity of Germany was born, is still so recent that it possesses personal rather than historical interest. To the historian of the next century these memoirs will be invaluable in portraying the characters of William I., Bismarck, and other leaders and participants in it; but to-day many a statement must seem to those personally interested as a slur upon the memory of dear friends.

A few instances of such indiscretion may be of interest. Thus, in speaking of the eightieth birthday of William I., the Prince mentioned in his diary a dinner at Bismarck's at which Marie von Bismarck told him that he was the only man upon whom her father could rely, and that he had often thought of him when he was tired of vexations and wanted to resign. The diary continues:

> "Afterwards I spoke with Gontaut. I think the Imperial Chancellor attaches much too much importance to him. He is, after all, an insignificant chatterbox. In the same way Bismarck makes too much of the claptrap of the Empress."

Again, in 1880, he sketches the situation as follows:

> "The Chancellor is at Varzin in a nervous state, and hesitates to come because he is afraid that the Kaiser and everyone else will give him too much to do here. The Kaiser is losing his memory to some extent, does not remember what he has signed, and becomes rude at times when he hears that something has happened which he thinks he has not been told about."

Bismarck's feigning illness, and his continual threats of resigning, are repeatedly mentioned. Thus, in 1872 the Prince states:

> "Yesterday a rumor was spread that Bismarck was again unwell, and that he would have to retire to the country for six months. As I had seen him some few days previous looking fresh and healthy, I thought this was curious, and I expected he was simply playing truant. This was the case. Bismarck has difficulties with the Emperor. His powerful and imperious nature cannot stand the pressure which the old gentleman brings to bear upon him."

* Memoirs of Prince of Chlodwig Hohenlohe-Schillingsfuerst. Authorized by Prince Alexander of Hohenlohe-Schillingsfuerst, and edited by Friedrich Curtius. English edition supervised by George W. Chrystal, B.A. In two volumes, with photogravure portraits. New York: The Macmillan Co.

But enough; such passages are of frequent occurrence. Whatever else they amount to, they certainly tend to obscure "the awe and majesty of kings" by bringing them down to a very human level; and so they certainly do not tend to further the desire of William II. to have his grandfather go down to posterity as "William the Great." Indeed, one most interesting thing in the book is the way in which Prince von Hohenlohe was constantly called upon to be the "buffer" between Bismarck and William I. Sometimes his influence was sought by one party, sometimes by the other. Thus, in 1879, in the matter of the alliance with Austria, Bismarck summoned the Prince, talked him over to his view, and then sent him to the Emperor. Bismarck was threatening to resign, the Emperor to abdicate; but the Prince was able to settle the matter. In October, 1874, the Chancellor and the Emperor had some difficulty over the speech from the throne. The Emperor wished to "water down" what Bismarck had written in regard to foreign affairs. The Prince thus reports his conversation with the Emperor:

"The Emperor quoted the passage from memory, and said he feared it was open to the construction that we were prepared to make war again upon France. And this was out of the question. He was too old to begin another war, and feared that Prince Bismarck was trying to drag him little by little into fresh hostilities. This was why he was so suspicious. I said that if the Prince had any such intention I must have been the first to know of it, but that I had not the faintest inkling of anything of the kind. That passage of the speech referred not to coalitions against us, but to the insinuations that had been got up against us. The Emperor stroked his beard, and said, without replying to my argument, 'I shall fall out with Prince Bismarck again over this matter, and it would gratify me if you would put it before him once more from my point of view.'"

But to turn from this phase of the memoirs to those features that give the book more permanent interest. One of the characteristics of statesmanship is the ability to read the signs of the times. This ability Prince von Hohenlohe possessed. Thus, in an article on the political condition of Germany in 1847 he points out that "It is a mistake to try to dam the Revolution by liberal reforms in the individual States without reforming Germany as a whole." He sincerely desired a united Germany, but what he wanted was "a real, politically efficacious unity," and till the various governments would approach the problem in a serious and self-sacrificing spirit he was opposed to the so-called progress and to concessions which he felt led directly to revolution. At this time he took the ground of an ultra-Conservative and opposed the Frankfurt resolution calling for a Constituent National Assembly, for he regarded it as practical anarchy. The subsequent course of events fully justified his position. His feeling toward the Church was much the same. In faith, he wanted something vital. Speaking of the fact that many educated men are either devoid of faith or accept the ordinances of the Church only as a matter of form, he says:

"But will such conventional homage to the Church endure? Will not the effects of this knowledge without faith spread to those classes of society which can have no interest in subordinating themselves to the Church and her dogmas, to the discipline and mortification which she imposes? Will not a total collapse be the end, or rather has it not even now begun to spread among the lower classes? . . . And if this result comes about, we must face the bankruptcy of faith, a catastrophe which must infallibly lead to the collapse of the whole structure of modern civilization. For all that, it would be childish to regret the discoveries of natural science. They are for a wise and useful end, because they have their place in the development of mankind."

At about the same date the Prince said, in another discussion of the same problem, "I believe that mankind will create for itself a form of faith adapted to it, and become religious again." This certainly shows a broader outlook upon religious matters, as well as a saner forecast of half a century's development, than can be claimed for many less orthodox believers than was Hohenlohe; indeed, he never seems to have shrunk from any advance that meant true progress.

His attitude as a member of the Catholic Church and as a German patriot is strikingly shown in the following paragraph regarding the expulsion of the Jesuits:

"I can never admit that a Jesuit can do anything independently of his superiors. The discipline of the Order is much too strict for that. . . . If the Jesuits agitate in Posen and in Alsace, they do this under the command of their superiors, empowered by their Order; and for this it is answerable. When the Jesuit Father Schrader, in his book, *The Pope and Modern Ideas*, advanced a whole system of theories dangerous to the State; if the *Civilta Cattolica* and the *Korrespondenz* of Geneva — the first under the eyes of the Pope, and the latter with his expressed approval — both being edited by Jesuits, both proclaim the sovereignty of the Church over the State; when the local Bavarian papers, under the control of the Jesuit Father Weisser, daily preach the shattering of the State; when the *Osservatore Romano*, conducted by Jesuits, reminds us that no heretic can be Emperor of Germany, that the Pope must dethrone him and the people drive him away, — then these are no 'rash journalistic excesses,' but facts of such importance that no one can shut his eyes to them. From the Catholic standpoint, it may be regrettable that we are not a Catholic country with a Catholic dynasty. But this objective complaint must not be made the spring of political action, and it can still less be tolerated that

anyone in Germany makes it the starting-point of an attack upon the Empire. This the Jesuits have done since the institution of their Order, and to this they are committed, — that is, to the violent extermination of Protestantism. What will happen if we tolerate tendencies for which we have to thank the Thirty Years' War, and which can lead to nothing else than a renewal of the Wars of Religion? I am therefore always of the opinion that the German people must expel the Jesuits in self-defence; and if you object that I, as a Catholic Prince, have no right to participate in this, I answer that I am in all things a *German* Prince, and as such must do my duty."

One exceedingly interesting feature of the memoirs is the light thrown upon the relations of Bismarck and the present Emperor of Germany. The question has been much discussed and much befogged, but in a passage in the journal is an account of a conversation in which the Emperor gives his version of the affair.

"The Emperor related the whole story of his difference with Bismarck without interruption. He said that relations had become strained as early as December. The Emperor then desired that something should be done upon the question of the workmen. The Chancellor objected. The Emperor's view was that if the Government did not take the initiative, the Reichstag — in other words, the Socialists, the Centre, and the Progressives — would take the matter in hand, and that the Government would be forced to follow them. The Chancellor desired to bring the Socialist law, including the provisions of expulsion, before the new Reichstag once again, to dissolve the Reichstag if it rejected the law, and to take energetic measures in the event of a revolt. The Emperor objected to this policy, saying that if his grandfather had been forced to deal with rebels after a long and glorious reign, no one would have thought the worse of him. But he was himself in a different position, for he had as yet achieved nothing. . . . He was ready enough to act, but he wished to be able to act with a clear conscience, and first to make an attempt to satisfy the legitimate grievances of the workmen, and at least to do everything that was possible to fulfil their justifiable demands. In a conference with his ministers, the Emperor therefore demanded that decrees should be drafted containing those provisions which the decrees afterward secured. Bismarck declined to hear of it. The Emperor then brought the matter before the Cabinet Council, and eventually secured the proposal of the decrees notwithstanding Bismarck's opposition. Bismarck, however, was secretly working against him. . . . This friction had considerably disturbed the relations between Bismarck and the Emperor, and these were further strained by the question of the Cabinet Order of 1852. Bismarck had often advised the Emperor to grant the ministers access to himself; and this was done. But when communication between the Emperor and his ministers became more frequent, Bismarck took offence, became jealous, and revived the Cabinet Order of 1852 in order to break communications between the Emperor and the ministers. The Emperor protested, and demanded the repeal of the Cabinet Order; Bismarck made a show of consent, but nothing was done in the matter. The Emperor therefore demanded that he should either issue an order of repeal or hand in his resignation. This decision the Emperor communicated through Hahnke. The Prince hesitated, but gave in his resignation on March 18. . . . The question at issue was, as the Emperor went on to say, whether the Hohenzollern dynasty or the Bismarck dynasty should reign."

The memoirs afford delightful glimpses of the Prince's private life, of his genial and imperturbable good temper, of his cultured appreciation of poetry and art. Space forbids further citations, even when that is the only way to give a just impression of the work. The translation, supervised by Mr. George W. Chrystal, B. A., is satisfactory and apparently adequate. The typography is worthy of special commendation. The chief source of regret is that Prince von Hohenlohe did not live to supervise the preparation of the work; in that case those elements that have provoked censure would doubtless have been omitted, and the whole work rounded out into a biography in the ordinary sense of the term.

LEWIS A. RHOADES.

THE LIBRARIAN AND HIS CHARGE.*

As long ago as the middle of the seventeenth century, to go no further back, the "librarie-keeper" was conscious of the dignity of his calling and the precious nature of his charge. A quaintly interesting series of reprints, styled collectively, "Literature of Libraries in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries," is now appearing, under the careful editorship of Mr. John Cotton Dana, public librarian at Newark, N. J., and Mr. Henry W. Kent, librarian of the Grolier Club in New York. The first four numbers of the set of six are Cotton des Houssayes's Sorbonne address on "The Duties and Qualifications of a Librarian," John Durie's two letters to Samuel Hartlib on "The Reformed Librarie-Keeper," Rev. James Kirkwood's two tracts on founding parochial libraries in Scotland, and Sir Thomas Bodley's autobiography and first draft of statutes of the library founded by him at Oxford.

It was in December, 1780, that the modest and learned scholar, the Abbé Cotton des Houssayes (1727–1783), delivered his brief address, in Latin, on assuming a librarian's duties at the Sorbonne. Publication speedily followed, and

* LITERATURE OF LIBRARIES IN THE SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES. Edited by John Cotton Dana and Henry W. Kent. 1. The Duties & Qualifications of a Librarian. By Jean-Baptiste Cotton des Houssayes. 2. The Reformed Librarie-Keeper. By John Dury. 3. Two Tracts on the Founding and Maintaining of Parochial Libraries in Scotland. By James Kirkwood. 4. The Life of Sir Thomas Bodley, written by himself, together with the First Draught of the Statutes of the Publick Library at Oxon. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.

translations, in both French and English, have appeared. The version now printed claims to be only partly new, but it commends itself to the reader as a scholarly piece of work. A selected passage emphasizing the librarian's high calling and needed qualifications will convey an idea of the whole. Throughout the treatise, its author shows himself awake to his possibilities of usefulness, and at the furthest possible remove from the position taken by that ease-loving Bodleian librarian who felt that his post would not be so very disagreeable if only the ——ed visitors would keep away.

"Your librarian, gentlemen, is in some sort your official representative. To him is remitted the deposit of your glory. . . . Thus, therefore, your librarian should be, above all, a learned and profound theologian; but to this qualification, which I shall call fundamental, should be united vast literary acquisitions, an exact and precise knowledge of all the arts and sciences, great facility of expression, and, lastly, that exquisite politeness which conciliates the affection of his visitors while his merit secures their esteem. A librarian truly worthy of the name should, if I may be permitted the expression, have explored in advance every region of the empire of letters, to enable him afterwards to serve as a faithful guide to all who may desire to survey it."

Emerson's slighting reference to the librarian as a man in whom we are not to look for learning merely because he lives among books, would have certainly incensed the erudite Abbé. His discourse, though not exceeding two thousand words in length, is full of sensible ideas, and ideas which, however familiar now, must have appeared "advanced" in the speaker's day. The editors' bibliographical and prefatory matter is all that could be desired; and the composition, press-work, and binding of the book are equally excellent.

The Letters of John Durie (1596–1680) on "The Reformed Librarie-Keeper" antedate the Abbé's little tract by a century and a quarter. The writer's active and somewhat troubled life as a religious reformer receives due attention in an introductory "Biographical Sketch" by Miss Ruth Shepard Granniss; but the occurrence of the word "graft," even in quotation marks, tends to give one a slight shock, as a little out of keeping with the tone, the atmosphere, the sober decorum of the little volume as a whole. Durie's friendship with Samuel Hartlib, and his family connection, as father-in-law, with Henry Oldenburg, bring him indirectly into interesting association with Milton. The biographical sketch informs us that "in 1649 Bulstrode Whitelock was appointed keeper of the king's medals and library," and that John Durie was soon afterward named as his assistant. Strictly speaking, of course, at the time of these appointments the medals and library could not be called "the king's"; but whether serving king or parliament or commonwealth, Durie was assistant library-keeper for a few years before he resumed his restless wanderings and his unsuccessful labors for Protestant unity. No whit less than our French Abbé did he feel the dignity of his calling and the great future opening to all library workers, as a brief extract will make evident.

"For if Librarie-keepers did understand themselvs in the nature of their work, and would make themselvs, as they ought to bee, useful in their places in a publick waie; they ought to becom Agents for the advancement of universal Learning: and to this effect I could wish, that their places might not bee made, as everie where they are, Mercenarie, but rather Honorarie; and that with the competent allowance of two hundred pounds a year; som emploiments should bee put upon them further than a bare keeping of the Books."

What some of these "emploiments" are, he proceeds to specify; and it almost startles the reader to find how many modern ideas are clothed in his quaint and antique phraseology and spelling. He very sensibly favors an expansive system of book location, but his scheme of classification is amusingly rudimentary to a twentieth-century librarian. This little volume, like its companion, is irreproachable in style and finish. Yet one queries why the editors chose to depart from the old spelling of Durie's name, printing it "Dury," which would have looked strange to its owner.

"An Overture for Founding and Maintaining Bibliothecks in every Paroch throughout the Kingdom," published anonymously at Edinburgh in 1699, is now, we are assured by its present editors, a tract of great rarity. Its authorship is traced to the Presbyterian minister, James Kirkwood (1650–1708), a brief sketch of whose life precedes the reprint of the above-named tract, to which is added a second, dealing with the same general subject, and entitled "A Copy of a Letter anent a Project for erecting a Library in every Presbytery, or at least County, in the Highlands." It is by means of this second little treatise that the authorship of the first is determined, but when or where it was originally published, the editors do not say; nor do they venture any assertion as to whether our philanthropist's endeavors bore fruit. Undoubtedly he was ahead of his age: the times were not ripe for public libraries. Yet the ultimate results of his zeal may have been considerable. Among other curious details of his scheme is one whereby the time allowed for retaining each volume was

to depend on its size and the distance of the borrower's home from the library. Our first subscription library, that founded by Franklin in Philadelphia, had a somewhat similar rule. The exalted motives to Kirkwood's exertions in this field find partial expression in the following sentence:

"Seeing God hath made all men by nature desirous of Knowledge, undoubtedly the satisfying of this desire, must be a considerable part of our natural felicity; for the only delight of our Souls, which are our better part, in which the Body doth not partake, is the delight She taketh in Knowledge and Contemplation."

Mr. Birrell's pleasant essay, "In the Name of the Bodleian," which forms the title-chapter to his latest collection of essays, must have aroused in many readers a fresh interest in Sir Thomas Bodley (1544–1613), founder of the famous Oxford University library that bears his name. The fourth number of the series under review contains his "Life," written by himself, and his "First Draught of the Statutes of the Public Library at Oxon." A preface by Miss Granniss gives further details about both the man and his library to eke out the modest record he himself has given of his doings. Of his benefactions to the university where he both studied and taught, he says very little, according more space to his honors and achievements as a diplomat, but limiting his entire autobiography (written in 1609) to some three thousand words. His "Statutes" run to nearly twice that length, and from them we take a short passage to illustrate the benevolent writer's old-fashioned charm of style.

"Above all things, that may concern the Preservation of this our publick Place of Study, or the Benefit, Use, and Ease of those that shall frequent it, it is deemed expedient, that some one be deputed to the Custody of it, that is noted and known for a diligent Student, and in all his Conversation to be Trusty, Active, and Discreet; a Graduat also, and a Linguist, not encumbred with Marriage, nor with a Benefice of Cure. For it cannot stand with piety, that such a Charge should admit the continual Society of other publick Imployments; and Marriage is too full of Domestical Impeachments, to afford him so much time from his private Affairs, as almost every Day's necessity of his private Presence will require."

Bodley's regard for books amounted almost to reverence. Remembering the sad fate of previous public collections of books at Oxford, he prescribed a penalty of instant and ignominious ejection from the university for so much as making "any Change in any Line or Lines, Word or Words, Syllable or Letter, in any Author whatsoever," or for being even an involuntary witness to such wicked act without denouncing the offender within three days. This volume is marked by the same excellence of workmanship that characterizes the other three. As a whole, this series promises to be a delight to the bibliophile as well as to the librarian. The two numbers still to appear are: a translation of Justus Lipsius's "De Bibliothecis Syntagma," Antwerp, 1602; and Gabriel Naudé's "News from France. Or, A Description of the Library of Cardinal Mazarini," London, 1652.

PERCY F. BICKNELL.

THE RED PLANET MARS.*

During the present year the planet Mars, which has given astronomers so merry a chase during the past few years, arrives at one of the favorable oppositions when its distance from the earth will be less than forty millions of miles, and details upon its surface will therefore be more easily seen than they usually are. Since public curiosity will soon be aroused, there is a certain timeliness in the nearly simultaneous publication of two books upon our interesting neighbor.

The first of these is an essay by Professor E. S. Morse, who has spent most of his long life in zoölogical studies. The study of life upon the earth has produced in him an intense interest in the question as to whether intelligent life exists in other worlds. Believing that any man possessing a fair amount of intelligence is competent to make a critical estimate of the work of astronomers upon Mars, he has essayed the task of sitting as judge upon their labors, of sifting the observational evidence at hand and pronouncing judgment in no hesitant fashion. The reader must not expect to find in the book the calm attitude of the man of science who looks at the matter in hand from all sides, examines the evidence pro and con, and then states his conclusions with the modesty which befits one who is aware of the uncertainties pertaining to the subject. The present author takes the viewpoint, rather, of the special pleader, marshals the evidence that bolsters up the theory he is advancing, ridicules opinions divergent from his own, and leaves the reader in a state of wonder as to what arguments might be advanced on the other side of the question. Such a course, however, when adopted by a man whose rhetorical ability is undoubted, at least leads to the production of a very readable book.

The general trend of Professor Morse's argu-

*MARS AND ITS MYSTERY. By Edward S. Morse. With Illustrations. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co.

MARS AND ITS CANALS. By Percival Lowell. Illustrated in photogravure, etc. New York: The Macmillan Co.

ment is as follows: First, life in other worlds is inherently probable. Second, a network of lines marks the surface of Mars. Third, the lines are most easily accounted for on the supposition that they mark the courses of irrigating canals. Fourth, these irrigating canals have been constructed by intelligent beings. This simple line of argument the author elaborates, enlivening nearly every chapter with personal allusions to well-known astronomers who have had the fortune, or the misfortune, to express opinions upon Mars. He has apparently overstepped the limits of polite language when he makes the following comments upon some astronomers and astronomical writers whom he mentions by name:

"But what could we expect of the mentality of the senior assistant of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, who, with the great vault of heaven crowded with enigmas awaiting an answer, should waste a particle of gray matter in trying to ascertain precisely where Joshua stood when he commanded the Sun to stand still so that he could have a little more time for his bloody work."

"I appeal to any honest and unprejudiced mind if a more incompetent person of the class to which he belongs could have been found in England for the Directorship of such a body."

"His attempt is as childish and ridiculous as the theory he conjures up."

"This is certainly a happy thought of the reverend author, only it would seem in this case that a larger and more diversified corps of specialists, including alienists, is needed to attend to that class of astronomers who are suffering from mental strabismus. It might be advisable to call in the services of a bacteriologist to make cultures of new forms of microbes which may be involved in rendering men incapable of estimating the value of evidence."

Professor Morse spent a month at the Lowell Observatory in Arizona, where he was given opportunity to observe Mars on every clear night with the 24-inch telescope. Here he came to appreciate the difficulties connected with the study of the system of canals. On pages 80–81 he describes his initial sensations.

"Imagine my surprise and chagrin when I first saw the beautiful disk of Mars through this superb telescope. Not a line! not a marking! The object I saw could only be compared in appearance to the open mouth of a crucible filled with molten gold. Slighter discolorations here and there and evanescent areas outlined for the tenth of a second, but not a determinate line or spot to be seen. Had I stopped that night, or even a week later, I might have joined the ranks of certain observers and said 'Illusion,' or something worse. And right here it was that my experience with microscopic work helped me; for, remembering the hours — nay, days — I had worked in making out structural features in delicate organisms which my unprofessional friends could not see at all, I realized that patient observation would be required if I was to be successful in my efforts. My despair, however, was overwhelming when Professor Lowell and his assistants, looking for a few moments at the same object, would draw on paper the features which had been plainly revealed to them, consisting of definite shaded regions, a number of canals and other markings, of which, with the utmost scrutiny, I could hardly detect a trace."

In replying to the natural objection that physical conditions on Mars may be so very different from those on the earth that such forms of life as we know may not be able to exist there, the author has written a very interesting chapter in which he shows the astonishing variety of circumstances under which life of various forms exists upon the earth. Animals of marvellous delicacy live at the bottom of the ocean in darkness and under a pressure of many tons to the square inch. Some forms of plant-life thrive in water nearly at the freezing point, and others exist in that which is almost ready to boil. Even men live in temperatures ranging from 130° in the shade to 70° below zero; they can work at an altitude of 19,000 feet, or under an atmospheric pressure of twenty-five or thirty pounds to the square inch, without injury.

Anyone who is at all interested in the question of the existence of intelligent life in other worlds may well pass a pleasant evening in perusing the pages of this entertaining book.

Of a very different sort is Professor Lowell's latest book on "Mars and Its Canals." Eleven years ago he issued a very attractive popular work on this subject, and during this interval he and his assistants have assiduously observed the ruddy planet at every favorable opportunity. These observations have strongly confirmed the opinions originally expressed by Professor Lowell, and have enabled him to fill in details in gratifying fashion. The observations have been made at his private observatory at Flagstaff, Arizona, where a 24-inch glass, of Alvan G. Clark's workmanship, is mounted at an elevation of eight thousand feet above the sea. In order to make out delicate planetary detail, it is absolutely necessary that the atmosphere at the observing station be both clear and steady. One who merely works with a microscope in the quiet air of a laboratory has no adequate conception of the difficulty of seeing minute details when one has to look through many miles of an agitated atmospheric ocean, laden with dust and water vapor, and often charged with ice-spiculæ in its upper layers.

Apart from the question of the existence and function of the Martian canals, the author believes that the following conclusions, from his own observations and those of others, are reasonable: First, that Mars has days and seasons substantially like our own. Second, that its enveloping

atmosphere contains water vapor, carbonic acid, and oxygen, and is quite rare, the barometric pressure being probably no greater than four inches. Third, that water is very scarce, as shown by the infrequency of clouds and the rapid melting of the polar caps in summer. Fourth, that the temperature is colder than ours, but above the freezing point of water except in winter and the extreme polar regions. Fifth, that vegetation springs up when the polar snows melt, and dies away in due course.

The difficulty of the observations which lie at the basis of all reasonable theorizing about the much-discussed system of canals and the existence of intelligent beings on the planet, may well be described in Professor Lowell's own words.

"When a fairly acute-eyed observer sets himself to scan the telescopic disk of the planet in steady air, he will, after noting the dazzling contour of the white polar cap and the sharp outlines of the blue-green seas, of a sudden be made aware of a vision as of a thread stretched somewhere from the blue-green across the orange areas of the disk. Gone as quickly as it came, he will instinctively doubt his own eyesight, and credit to illusion what can so unaccountably disappear. Gaze as hard as he will, no power of his can recall it, when, with the same startling abruptness, the thing stands before his eyes again. Convinced, after three or four such showings, that the vision is real, he will still be left wondering what and where it was. For so short and sudden are its apparitions that the locating of it is dubiously hard. It is gone each time before he has got its bearings. By persistent watch, however, for the best instants of definition, backed by a knowledge of what he is to see, he will find its comings more frequent, more certain, and more detailed. At last some particularly propitious moment will disclose its relation to well-known points and its position be assured. First, one such thread and then another will make its presence evident; and then he will note that each always appears in place. Repetition *in situ* will convince him that these strange visitants are as real as the main markings, and are as permanent as they. . . . Not everybody can see these delicate features at first sight, even when pointed out to them; and to perceive their more minute details takes a trained as well as an acute eye, observing under the best conditions."

Our author has devoted half his book to a detailed description of observations of the canals and to theories as to their nature and origin. These tantalizing objects were even photographed; joyful was the day when this feat was accomplished!

"The eagerness with which the first plate was scanned as it emerged from its last bath may be imagined, and the joy when on it some of the canals could certainly be seen! There were the old configurations of patches, the light areas and the dark, just as they looked through the telescope, and never till then otherwise seen of human eye, and there more marvelous yet were the grosser of those lines that had so piqued human curiosity, the canals of Mars. . . . By chance on one of the plates a temporal event was found registered too, the first snowfall of the season, the beginning of the new polar cap, seen visually just before the plate happened to be put in and reproduced by it unmistakably. Upon the many images thirty-eight canals were counted in all, and one of them, the Nilokeras, double. Thus did the canals at last speak for their own reality themselves."

We are now ready to ask for an explanation of the nature of these delicate markings. The author shows that their complex behavior may be accounted for by a theory which he unhesitatingly advocates. This theory is that there are narrow waterways extending in a complete network over the surface of Mars; when the polar snows melt, the released water flows equatorwards through these waterways, quickening vegetation along their banks and causing it to develop from the polar regions onward. This vegetation flourishes for a time, dies out, and is again renewed seasonally. If we grant that vegetation somewhat similar to our own exists, the author asks us to admit that animal life, which is closely coexistent with vegetable life on the earth, is likewise associated with it on Mars. On page 358 he says:

"Once started, life, as palæontology shows, develops along both the floral and faunal lines side by side, taking on complexity with time. It begins so soon as secular cooling has condensed water vapor into its liquid state; chromaceæ and confervæ coming into being high up toward the boiling point. Then with lowering temperature come the sea-weeds and the rhizopods, then the land plants and the lunged vertebrates. Hand in hand the flora and fauna climb to more intricate perfecting, life rising as temperature lowers."

Professor Lowell believes that the water would not flow along the canals from a pole downward across the equator unless artificially helped; this help he ascribes to beings of a high order of intelligence, who have fashioned the canal system. He calls particular attention to the fact that the canals connect small round dark spots which are scattered over the planet's face, going with geometrical precision straight from one "oasis" to another. These "oases" he considers centres of population. The population he esteems "necessarily intelligent" and of a "non-bellicose character." How firm his conviction is may be judged from the first sentence of the last chapter, which reads as follows:

"That Mars is inhabited by beings of some sort or other, we may consider as certain as it is uncertain what those beings may be."

Whether the reader can accept the author's conclusions or not, he will at least be forced to admit, after reading "Mars and Its Canals," that the book is an exceedingly able and interesting exposition of the subject.

HERBERT A. HOWE.

The Record of a Scholarly Life.*

The life of a scholar in nineteenth-century England, inclined by temperament and ill-health to the quiet content to be sought far from the madding crowd, leaves a literary record without stir of adventure or thrill of triumph, but one eagerly appreciated by such as are sympathetic with the charm of letters. George Birkbeck Hill, best known for his notable edition of Boswell's Johnson, found in heredity and environment a potent shaping of his fate. Son and grandson of a schoolmaster, he, along with his brothers, was early initiated into preceptorial service in the family's large boarding-school for boys, of which for eighteen years he in turn served as partner or master. The natural path for the career led through Oxford, which he entered in 1855 at the age of twenty. There the determining influences — a not uncommon experience — were his companions, a notable group of young men who presently formed themselves into a club which they called the "Old Mortality." The names of the original members are, almost without exception, now in the rolls of the distinguished: Professor Nichol, Professor Dicey, Mr. Swinburne, Professor Thomas Hill Green, the Right Honorable James Bryce, Dr. Caird (Master of Baliol), Dr. Birkbeck Hill, and Mr. Justice Wright. An equally intimate companion was William Morris. A contemporary, not of the club, records that "they were a revolutionary set, and read Browning."

Young Hill's Oxford letters were divided between his father and Miss Scott (to whom he was early engaged, and who became his helpful life-mate), with a natural preponderance, both in number and intimacy, in favor of the latter. Here is one of them:

> "Yesterday I was in Swinburne's rooms. I wish you knew the little fellow; he is the most enthusiastic fellow I ever met, and one of the cleverest. He wanted to read me some poems he had written, and have my opinion. They are really very good, and he read them with such an earnestness, so truly feeling everything he had written, that I for the first time in my life enjoyed hearing the poetry of an amateur."

In 1857 the "Old Mortality" club became responsible for a magazine, to the first issue of which Birkbeck Hill contributed his maiden literary effort in the form of a story. Mr. Swinburne's contributions were essays on "Early Dramatists" and "Modern Hellenism" (aimed at "our Professor of Poetry, Matthew Arnold"), and the poem "Queen Yseult"; and it was Swinburne who assembled the enthusiastic company in his rooms "to welcome in the little stranger." But the printer was late.

> "Though we had not the satisfaction of having the paper itself, we still managed to drink its health in very good claret, as well as the health of each contributor, and the absent editor [Nichol] also. So we made very merry indeed; and though the baby was not there, still the christening was very successful."

The arduous labors connected with the management of the school at Bruce Castle, Tottenham, and the cares of their own large family, became ever more wearing. In 1877 Dr. Hill and his wife gave up the school and removed to Burgfield, near Reading. His life from now on was that of a man of letters with precarious income, rendered more so by the almost chronic interruptions of ill-health. While yet a schoolmaster he had become a constant reviewer, and in 1874 had brought out a little book, "Dr. Johnson, his Friends and his Critics," a venture upon which, according to Mrs. Hill's careful accounting, he lost just £3. In 1879 his uncle Sir Rowland Hill died, and Birkbeck Hill became the biographer of the founder of Penny Postage. The next year he performed a similar service in bringing out the Letters of Colonel Gordon from Central Africa. The three years from 1883 to 1886 were devoted wholly to the *magnum opus*, the six-volume edition of Boswell; and in the last of those years, in the interests of the work, he removed to Oxford. An edition of "Rasselas," also of "The Traveller" and the Letters of Hume, and a selection of Johnson's writings under the title "The Wit and Wisdom of Dr. Johnson," were the contributions of 1888; in 1890 appeared the "Footsteps of Dr. Johnson," and in 1892 a collection of Dr. Johnson's Letters. Some lectures given by Dr. Hill in 1891 were made up into a little volume, "Writers and Readers." In 1893 Dr. Hill visited America; and the experience bore fruit in an account of "Harvard College, by an Oxonian," while his contributions to "The Atlantic Monthly" became a sheaf of "Talks about Autographs."

The charm of Dr. Hill's personality instantly made itself felt in almost any company. His comment upon his college friend Faulkner — later of the famous art firm of Morris, Marshall, Faulkner & Co. — "It would never occur to him whether a man were a duke or a chimney-sweep," may appropriately be applied to himself. On the whole, he would have preferred the chimney-

* Letters of George Birkbeck Hill, D.C.L. Arranged by his daughter, Lucy Crump. With portraits in photogravure. New York: Longmans, Green, & Co.

sweep, if we may judge by the following letter to the same Faulkner (1879):

"Can you not give me a day or two here on your way back to Oxford? . . . I met Morris in coming here yesterday, and travelled down with him. . . . Have you any work to do, here is your place to do it. We have risen a step — a very great step in the world — since we last saw you. The County has at last called on us, in the shape of the Right Honourable —— ——. I returned the call, and was plunged in the midst of a lawn-tennis party. I was taken past a bench of young ladies and seated by Mrs. —— ——. When once there, I dared not move. I was conscious that I was staying too long, but I could not face the young ladies again. There were some military swells there in great yellow mustaches. I was in a flannel shirt. How I suffered! Lord! — I mean Right Hon! — what is man that thou so regardest him! Old —— himself was not bad, but the swells and swellesses! I will introduce you to them, and we will talk in our most Radical style, and damn all parsons and squires, and speak disrespectfully of the House of Lords. The worst of me is that while I can roar like a lion in writing, I am as fearful and weak-voiced as a mouse before respectable people. You shall be Moses and the spokesman, and I will be a chorus."

Dr. Hill's candor and sincerity of thought and speech made it quite impossible for him to deal tolerantly with presumption, duplicity, privilege, or dogmatism. He was liberal in politics and religion, as in letters. Accurate, considerate, with a scholar's standards and ideals, the wholesouledness of his interest made him as eager in one occupation as in another. The most delightful of companions, an adored friend of children (some of his charming writings to the little ones have been gathered in "Letters of a Grandfather"), he carried with him the subtle attraction of having only to be himself to be at once your friend. Straightforward in thought, and with keen insights, his opinions were sound as well as incisive, while over all there played the genial humor of a kindly simplicity. Good talk he enjoyed, and practised his own preaching.

"It ought to be taught as one of the chief duties of life that each one is bound so to train and store his mind that he may take his part in pleasant and general talk. 'Thou shalt not bore thy neighbor' might well be added to the Commandments."

These qualities impart to his letters (which, it must be remembered, are for the most part the intimate communion of husband and wife, of a father with his children) at once a sterling interest and a personal charm. Always ready for foolery and the lighter vein, he ever gave a serious subject serious attention. Thoughts, as men, he valued for their real worth. Reputation, convention, the sanction of majorities or superficial consideration, influenced him little. His comment upon a bit of fine writing in Renan is characteristic: "There is one passage about beautiful women which might have been written by at least ten thousand French fools, and so should not have been written by Renan."

His interest in America, though brought to the venture of two trans-Atlantic journeys through the marriage of a daughter to Professor Ashley, sometime professor at Harvard University, was dominantly in a land in which worth had an untrammelled chance to assert itself. "There are four great cradles of liberty in the world — so I reckon them — Greece, Holland, England and New England." He focussed his attention upon one of our institutions which it was well that the English cousin should comprehend. He willingly records, "What progress Harvard is making! She strides while our Universities crawl." Yet he equally brought forward the benefits of seeing ourselves as others see us; and a dozen years' experience vindicate the sharp-sightedness of the Oxonian spectacles. Not the least of our shortcomings — the reviewer may be permitted to add, not out of harmony with the spirit of Dr. Hill's strictures — is that we offer so little incentive and provide so sparingly for the living of such scholarly lives as that so pleasantly recorded in the letters of George Birkbeck Hill.

JOSEPH JASTROW.

WITHSTANDING THE GODS.*

"Love thou the gods and withstand them, lest thy fame should fail at the end,
And thou be but their thrall and bondsman, who wast born for their very friend."

With this quotation from Sigurd the Volsung, Mr. Garrod begins his book, "The Religion of all Good Men." "I could almost think," he says on a later page, "I could almost think it the last word in religion."

It is the great merit of this little work, that it excites those very sentiments which its author regards as appropriate to religion. As we read, we not only admire the writer's eloquence and originality, but we come to have a sympathetic affection for his personality; and yet we are stirred up to wrestle with his arguments, in default of that personal encounter for which we instinctively yearn. In the preface we are offered a sort of excuse for the book.

"What I want to say needs, I think, at this time to be said by somebody; and it is better that I should say it imperfectly than that nobody should say it at all. . . . And let me here say this: there is a danger that I may change my opinions. But there is also a danger that I

*THE RELIGION OF ALL GOOD MEN, and Other Studies in Christian Ethics. By H. W. Garrod, Fellow and Tutor of Merton College, Oxford. New York: McClure, Phillips & Co.

may lose the courage of them. Ten years hence I may have the courage only of other people's opinions. My environment [Oxford] is one where the 'shades of the prison-house' too early close in upon youthful enthusiasm. Sooner than elsewhere, one ceases to be 'on his way attended by the Vision splendid,' and begins to think and feel and speak conventionally and academically. Everywhere around me I hear the praise of the 'middle course,' of compromise, of suspended judgment; and I see the love of truth corrupted into the sophistic passion for believing both sides of a contradiction. I see the folks of my little world the victims, all of them, of one or two diseases — the disease of having no opinions ('the balanced mind') or the disease of not expressing them ('moderation'). Yet we all know that the just balance is motionless: nor have we ever seen in history intellectual progress born of an elegant *laissez-faire*."

And so, secretly aware of the cheerful — nay, enthusiastic — permission of the discriminating, and scornful of the protests of the multitude, this extraordinary Fellow proceeds to correct some of the most ancient misunderstandings of our Christian world. In the first section, headed "Christian, Greek, or Goth," it is maintained that in addition to Christianity and Hellenism we have a third but little-recognized force, which is Northern or Gothic in origin. It is suggested that whereas *historical* Christianity has in the past come in for a great deal of criticism, it is now rather *ethical* Christianity that is being called into question. Both Christianity and Hellenism have been tried and found wanting; or if not so found, it has been because they have been combined with another element essentially distinct in its nature and origin, though not recognized as such.

"The ideal of Christianity is what we may call holiness. The ideal of Hellenism may be said to be understanding, or intelligence. . . . Two ideals, chivalry and honor, are neither Greek nor Christian: I take them to be the peculiar property and creation of the northern races. I may call them the cardinal virtues of Gothic morality."

And again:

"Christianity has said, 'In my flesh dwelleth no good thing.' . . . Against that, chivalry is a brilliant and powerful, though erratic, protest. . . . It had also accounted those alone blessed who, in the cause of Christ, had made themselves 'as the filth of the world and the offscourings of all things unto this day.' . . . Against all that, so unnatural, so pusillanimous, so impossible, the ideal of honor is a righteous and necessary and enduring protest. 'I am a man of peace,' says Clough's *Dipsychus*:

> 'I am a man of peace,
> And the old Adam of the gentleman
> Dares seldom in my bosom stir against
> The mild plebeian Christian seated there.'

But it is to the motions in the blood of this old Adam that European society, as I believe, owes, and has always owed, its salvation."

To most, this will seem in some degree extravagant; and yet, who can suppose that the northern civilization, so rich in the mingling currents of humanity, has not contributed something to the religious life of its members? In the language of the naturalist, should there not be some *endemic* forms within this territory? — and if so, are they not likely to be the most characteristic, the most precisely adapted to this peculiar environment?

In a later chapter, "Christ the Forerunner," Mr. Garrod sets forth a new view of Christ and his mission, which explains in many ways his attitude toward Christianity, and his circumscription of it regarded as an original force. Christ, it is urged, taught and believed that the end of the world, or at least the end of ordinary human institutions, was close at hand. Paul was of the same opinion. Consequently, their religion, as actually held and presented, is by no means applicable to the life of normal men and women. Nor is this all. Numerous and apparently plausible reasons are adduced for believing that Christ did not so much as claim to be the Messiah, and that the "Son of Man," so frequently referred to by him, was not himself but another. It is impossible here to summarize the argument, but the least we can say of it is that it is extremely interesting; and we cannot deny the fact, urged by the author, that whereas the Gospel is everywhere read, few there are who examine it critically.

What, then, of Christianity, after all? If it has been crassly misunderstood, and made to cover in name quite other things, if it is in itself unsuited for human needs, what of it? Was the mission of Christ a failure? Not so.

"In the long and learned introduction prefixed to his edition of the Bible (dated 1813), by the Rev. John Brown, I read that 'Perhaps about A. D. 2860 or 3000 Satan will be again loosed from his long restraint; and, after corrupting the members of the Church, will assemble the Turks, Russians, or others of a savage temper, to destroy her: but the fearful vengeance of God shall overtake them in their attempt. *Then cometh the end of the world*, at what distance we know not.' This irruption of Satan, this high-handed action of Turkey and Russia, this end of all things, those who read these lines will be able to await with equanimity in a different place from this. The Rev. John Brown has gone thither before us; but he may be allowed to speak to us a kind of allegory.

"The year 2860 is ever upon us daily: daily is Satan unloosed, and peoples 'of a savage temper' arm themselves against the truth of God: the end of all things is ever staring us in the face. John was right, Jesus was right, St. Paul was right, when each proclaimed the immediate coming of the Kingdom of God. It comes daily when Satan (that is, Sin and Ignorance and the Pride which either engenders) is cast down by the power of Justice and Right, Knowledge and Simplicity: when 'men of a savage temper' are diverted from their wrath

by the soft answer of good-sense. It comes daily to all who, without losing interest in life, or the healthy sense of the world, yet feel that all their actions look to an end that is not on earth; to the man who through the day keeps his eyes upon the duties of the day to do them, who is just, kind, moderate, healthy-minded, who also at the close of each day goes out at his door, and, lifting his eyes from the earth, looks awhile at 'the unnumbered stars of God,' though he stand there without speech or prayer — to such an one the Kingdom of Heaven comes daily. For that which sent John to the dungeon, Christ to the Cross, Paul to the block, each filled with the faith of the instant coming of the Lord, was none else than this — the sense, which should be in each one of us, of a perfection ever about to be attained, a joy and peace ever about to be realized. He who has not this sense of the ideal may, as truly as he that lacks 'charity,' be counted dead before God."

I have tried to present all this without dispute, not because there is any lack of opportunity for controversy, but because I think the worth of the book very far outweighs such faults as it may possess — these latter being, indeed, such necessary accompaniments of perfect straightforwardness that we could not wish them absent. It will do any man good to read such virile words, — and if they harm him, he is not worthy to withstand the gods.

T. D. A. Cockerell.

Briefs on New Books.

For the hunter of antiques.

"The true collector," says Mrs. N. Hudson Moore in one of the chapters of her delightful "Collector's Manual" (F. A. Stokes Co.), "when once embarked on his career, is seldom content to keep in one narrow path, but strays out in many directions, and finds pleasure in them all." Many a "true collector" will agree with Mrs. Moore, and be grateful to her for offering him in one volume information about a number of the main branches of that complex and fascinating subject, the collecting of antiques. Mrs. Moore has already written in separate volumes, and more exhaustively, of china, brass and pewter, lace, and old furniture; but the true collector is generally poor, because of the temptations that collecting offers, and he will be glad, particularly if he is a beginner in need of general information, to be able to get so much of it, concisely put and lavishly illustrated, in one moderate-priced volume. About half the book is given to various articles of furniture. An account of the origin of each article is given, and extracts from old wills, diaries, or inventories prove its existence and importance at early dates. Various good styles are illustrated, as well as a few "faked" or "restored" ones, to put the novice on his guard. Mrs. Moore aims to arouse enthusiasm as well as to cultivate taste. She does not forget that the quest of a bargain and the amusing and sometimes amazing adventures that the quest entails make up a good part of the fun for the "true collector"; so she sprinkles her pages with lively anecdotes of her own and her friends' experiences. Her own pet fad, she confesses, is the collecting of "cottage ornaments," which is the trade name for the quaint Staffordshire figures of shepherds and shepherdesses, well-known people, or animals, particularly sheep and dogs. This is a field comparatively new to the average collector, and almost nothing has hitherto been written about it. Old glassware, brass and copper, pewter, and a few of the best-known English chinas, are Mrs. Moore's other topics. These are all subjects which a lover of antiques, in pursuit of his own particular hobby, is sure to become interested in, or at least to want a little information about. Mrs. Moore writes definitely and concisely, and her wide acquaintance among English and American collectors enables her to offer her readers a particularly complete and helpful set of illustrations.

The love-letters of a king.

A curious little book, fraught with interest both as a historical study and a human document, is the collection of the "Love-Letters of Henry VIII. to Anne Boleyn," now issued by Messrs. John W. Luce & Co. in a small leather-bound volume, with fanciful frontispiece and incidental decorations in black and white. A note by Mr. Halliwell Phillips, reprinted from another edition of the letters, gives an account of the earliest appearance of the letters in print, and a justification for the accepted order of arrangement. The order in the present edition, which is explained in a second note of anonymous authorship, is radically different, following that of Mr. Brewer's Calendar of State Papers. Each letter is dated as exactly as the evidence warrants, and there are a few textual notes. A perusal of the letters shows Henry in the character of a fairly ardent though not passionate lover, with a strong tendency to moralize and to lay emphasis upon the practical rather than the sentimental aspects of his affection. There is nothing here to kindle Anne's cold heart, but much to assure her of her royal lover's devotion, and of his pious dependence upon divine Providence to bring their affairs to a happy issue. These emotions seem a little forced in view of the facts, and the colorless phrasing is due, possibly, to the fact that more than half of the letters were written in French. Besides, Henry lived before the dawn of the art of letter-writing. He evidently regards correspondence as a mere necessary means of communication, and does not dream of being personal or expansive in a letter. His scholarship shows only in a polished style and in chance bits of Latin; while of the wit and versatility that made Erasmus wonder, there is no sign. So there is nothing in these rather commonplace epistles to cause the most sensitive reader to raise a cry of confidence violated. And yet, as a work of a moral monster and a great king, the collection is not without a unique interest for modern readers, though most of that interest must be read between the lines.

A flight through Scandinavia.

To journey through Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, to cross the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Finland, getting a glimpse of Helsingfors, to go to St. Petersburg and Moscow, and then to scamper back to London, the starting-point, by way of Berlin, Hamburg, Amsterdam, and Den Haag, all in five weeks, is to invite some musty comparisons with the personally conducted tourist who helter-skelters round Europe in a limited vacation time. Mr. William Seymour Edwards took his honeymoon trip over the route outlined, and despite the shortness of the time given to it he appears to have seen much more and to have assimilated it better than the average tourist does. His book entitled "Through Scandinavia to Moscow" (Robert Clarke Co.), while commonplace in many respects, is saved from mediocrity by the author's remarks on the people he observed — especially in Scandinavia. In Norway he was struck with the sight of many newly-built farm-houses and their substantial and modern improvements, all made with the aid of American dollars sent home by prosperous Norwegians living in our Northwest. An interesting contrast between the Norwegian and the Swede is pointed out. "The Norwegian looks out upon the Twentieth Century and finds his inspiration in the example of free America and the universal equality of man. The Swede looks ever backward to the glorious days of Gustavus Vasa, Gustavus Adolphus, and Charles XII., and sighs for a return of the good old times when the half of Europe trembled before Sweden's military might. . . . Thus have the cousin peoples swung wide apart. The one, free and open-minded; the other, still dazed by the faded glories of a long dead past, turns ever a wistful eye toward the military tyrannies of Czar and Kaiser, and finds in the inequalities of landed noble and landless yokel, in official military caste and enthralled peasantry, the realization of his Fifteenth Century ideal." Mr. Edwards's comments on the relations of the Slav and the Jews, and their much advertised conflicts, are very sensible, much more so, indeed, than many accounts which purport to treat the matter at great length with more extended data. The Jew in Russia, according to Mr. Edwards, "prospers without and in spite of the fostering care of the autocracy," and hence he incurs the Slav's envy and jealousy. Like a loyal American, Mr. Edwards closes his book with thankfulness that he and his bride were "born and bred beneath the Stars and Stripes."

The letters of a famous artist and gallant.

"Sir Thomas Lawrence's Letter-bag" (Longmans), edited by Mr. George Somes Layard, and supplemented by some pleasant recollections of the artist by a contemporary, Miss Elizabeth Croft, is offered as a sort of corrective to "An Artist's Love Story" which Mr. Oswald G. Knapp edited two years ago from certain of Lawrence's letters, and those of Mrs. Siddons and her daughters, that had to do with the painter's coquettish attentions to the two Misses Siddons. This earlier work has already been noticed in these columns. Now, out of "five immense volumes" of unpublished letters to and from the artist his present editor and apologist has selected a goodly number of very correct and proper epistles wherein affairs of the heart are seldom mentioned, to show us the man in a more favorable light. That Lawrence was now and then vexatiously dilatory in filling orders for his pictures, is made plain; but no worse charge can be brought against him from this published correspondence. Of Mr. Layard's book it may truly be said that the end crowns the work: the concluding "Recollections" of the painter's friend Elizabeth Croft, who survived him by twenty-six years, give a more intimate and attractive picture of him than do his own letters. Twenty-two illustrations, mostly from Lawrence's paintings, enliven the volume and convey a good idea of the artist's peculiar excellence — that of an incomparable draughtsman of faces and hands. These prints are all the better for leaving out, by necessity, the painter's defects of coloring, which has been censured as hard and glassy, though brilliant and effective. Campbell used to say of his work: "This is the merit of Lawrence's paintings — he makes one seem to have got into a drawing-room in the mansions of the blest, and to be looking at oneself in the mirrors"; and Opie, less kindly: "Lawrence made coxcombs of his sitters, and his sitters made a coxcomb of him." Of the "dangerous fascination" of the old flirt, Fanny Kemble long ago told us her experience.

Planning the garden and its accessories.

The modest volume by Loring Underwood, entitled "The Garden and its Accessories" (Little, Brown & Co.), is not so much out of season as it might appear, for it is the often reiterated advice of expert gardeners to plan the garden well in advance in order to have it a success. If this is the case with the trees, shrubs, and flowers, certainly it is even more important where the permanent settings of the garden are concerned; since on those, as not only landscape gardeners but home-builders are beginning to see, the final beauty of the picture and its satisfying qualities are most apt to depend. The book contains only about a hundred pages of text, but there is an illustration, and an excellent and really illustrative one, for nearly every page of reading matter. The author, who is a landscape architect, writes with knowledge and love of his subject, and emphasizes a point too often lost sight of — the necessity of proportion, harmony, suitability, if the result is to be beauty. The descriptions and pictures of the different types of garden-houses, pergolas, trellises, and arches, the garden gazing-globes, sundials, stone lanterns, seats, tables, bird-houses, and what-not, the lily-ponds, the walls, terraces, and fences, will be studied with interest by those who are planning a garden, whether large or small, formal or informal. Likewise the chapter on suitable materials for these accessories may be read with profit. But the most important advice is given in the beginning, — on the wisdom of providing our

gardens with such permanent settings as shall make them attractive all the year round, and of not copying the styles of other times and lands, but so adapting them that American gardens shall have a charm and an individuality of their own.

Pleasant rambles in the classics.

It is not every reader that can sympathize with Charles Lamb in his avowed preference for books about books; and even of those that can, comparatively few will be familiar enough with the ancient classics to turn with intelligent interest the leaves of Mr. Hugh E. P. Platt's curious little volume entitled "A Last Ramble in the Classics" (Oxford: B. H. Blackwell). This is not merely a book about books, but it is even to some extent a book about books that are themselves about books — bookishness raised to the third power, so to speak. Among all sorts of matters pleasantly treated, with apt quotations from authors classical and post-classical, we meet with sections devoted to "Sport in the Poets," "Melodious Verse," "False Quantities," "Some Quaint Mistakes," "More Proverbial Phrases" (in addition, that is, to similar phrases in the same author's "Byways in the Classics"), "Words and Manners," "Sundry Questions," etc. The following legal witticism, classic in flavor, is one of the many quotable things in the book. "Once, when plaster came tumbling down as he was hearing a case, Mr. Justice Chitty ejaculated, 'Fiat justitia, ruat ceiling!'" Lacking Mr. Platt's professed fondness for verifying references, and also the time necessary to verify his very numerous references — which might claim more hours of work than he spent in writing the book — we must assume, as we gladly do, that his careful scholarship has kept him from error in his multitudinous citations. His zeal and industry in this his chosen field of labor (or relaxation) are admirable, although to most readers his little book may well appear to bear somewhat the same relation to live literature of real life as it is to-day that cherry-stone carving does to sculpture. But it is not given to everyone to carve cherry-stones with distinction.

Six noted heroes of adventure.

The remarkable deeds of six remarkable men, told by a writer also accounted remarkable, furnish reading that should be and is remarkably interesting. "Real Soldiers of Fortune" (Scribner), from the same pen that has already depicted the imaginary "Soldiers of Fortune," presents in brief compass the striking adventures of Major-General Henry Ronald Douglas MacIver, Baron James Harden-Hickey, Mr. Winston Spencer Churchill, Captain Philo Norton McGiffin, General William Walker, and Major Frederick Russell Burnham "the king of scouts." Not in every instance does Mr. Richard Harding Davis write from intimate personal knowledge of his hero; but he always seems so to have caught the spirit of the man he is describing that dulness and unreality have no place in his pages. The chapter on Mr. Churchill (the English Churchill, be it noted), soldier, war correspondent, lecturer, author, and politician, gains peculiar freshness and actuality from the writer's near acquaintance with and admiration for his bold and talented young hero. But the last chapter of all, that on Major Burnham, rivals it as an interest-awakener. The sketch of General MacIver, which opens the book, might perhaps have gained by the addition of fuller details concerning his life since 1884, when he published his autobiography entitled "Under Fourteen Flags." Brought up to date, says Mr. Davis, the book would properly be called "Under Eighteen Flags." What are the four additional flags? The twenty-one illustrations, especially the portraits, add much to the attractiveness of these true stories of daring deeds.

The vital part of psychic processes in Evolution.

A new edition of Professor J. Mark Baldwin's well-known volume with which, ten years ago, he began his exposition of a genetic psychology is appropriate and welcome. As an aid to the dissemination of interest in and appreciation of the vital share that psychic processes occupy in evolution, his books on "Mental Development" (Macmillan) have done good service; and it is well that the opportunity has been embraced to incorporate such modifications and amendments of the text as the increasing insight of recent knowledge makes possible. The systematic appearance which it is attempted to give to this volume, and to those that followed it in the author's writings, is somewhat misleading. They form a record of the author's successive change of interests in the several problems capable of attack from the genetic point of view; as such they are suggestive, and the treatment of some of the problems is distinctly valuable. It is, however, quite impossible for one so devoted to following the bent of his own interests, and of giving himself great latitude in the prominence of favorite phases of discussion, to achieve a fair perspective of the field as a whole. The announcement is accordingly timely that the author is engaged upon a single volume that will have for its central object the setting forth of the principles of genetic psychology. It is always fairer to record an appreciation of a work for what it really accomplishes than to render it subject to criticism by setting it in a class to which it does not belong.

An up-to-date handbook of Polar research.

A dozen years ago, General Greely issued the first edition of his "Handbook of Polar Discoveries." The third edition has been revised and enlarged, and now appears brought down to 1906 (Little, Brown & Co.). The book is, as its name implies, simply a compendium, in preparing which 70,000 pages of original narrative have been summarized and classified. Polar expeditions have been carried on from three motives. At first commercial interests furnished their incentive, as when England and Spain competed in endeavors to find a short route to the Indies. Later, the desire to enlarge geographical

knowledge gave the needed impetus. At the present time all expeditions are equipped with scientific instruments and are expected to add to the sum of scientific knowledge. The actual contributions to science which have been made by polar expeditions are by no means inconsiderable, but the irresistible desire for conquest and the spirit of adventure are powerful factors in recent expeditions as well as in many a past exploit in the frozen North. The last thirty pages of General Greely's book are devoted to Antarctic research. An extensive bibliography and an excellent index enhance the value of this handbook, and serve to indicate to the reader the sources of practically our entire knowledge of Arctic regions.

Problems and progress of the Panama Canal.

Mr. C. H. Forbes-Lindsay has written a very useful and instructive little volume on "Panama, the Isthmus and the Canal" (J. C. Winston Co.). In his preface the author writes: "I have endeavored to relate the story of the Panama Canal from the earliest explorations to the present time, with as much avoidance as possible of technics, and in a manner that shall be comprehensible to the general reader." Every feature of this vast undertaking is pictured in detail with simplicity and intelligibility, and without undue argumentative discussion. In an appendix the author tells the story of the "Great Canals of the World," a story extracted from a monograph under this title issued by the Department of Commerce and Labor at Washington. The book will serve a useful purpose as an introduction to a study of the problems involved in the construction of the canal, and in summarizing the things already done there. Although the book is written in topical style, an index would enhance its usefulness. Two excellent maps help one to understand the discussion concerning the respective merits of the sea-level and the lock systems of construction.

BRIEFER MENTION.

Readers of Father Sheehan's admirable novels of Irish life and character (to say nothing of his striking poems) will be glad to make his acquaintance as an essayist. For this the opportunity is now offered by the publication (Longmans) of a volume of his "Early Essays and Lectures," wherein he discourses instructively and with fine intelligence upon such men as Emerson, Arnold, and Aubrey De Vere, and upon such themes as "The German Universities," "The German and Gaelic Muses," and "Irish Youth and High Ideals."

Mr. Edmund G. Gardner's book on Ariosto, which he calls by the rather cheap title "The King of Court Poets" (Dutton), is a continuation of his "Dukes and Poets of Ferrara." It treats, in the first part, of the political conditions in Italy in the early decades of the sixteenth century; and in the second, of Ariosto's works, the "Orlando Furioso," the minor Latin poems, and the comedies. The poet is at times so lost sight of in the complex manœuvres of Italian politics that the work reminds one of the famous criticism of Masson's "Milton." Mr. Gardner, however, seeks to keep us in touch with his subject by illustrating, from the "Orlando" and other works, the poet's attitude toward the events of his time. The chapters dealing with the poetry of Ariosto are pleasing, but on the whole rather inconclusive. The style of the book is without distinction, and it occasionally lapses into inelegance.

The twentieth annual volume of "Book Prices Current," covering the English auction season of 1905–6, comes to us from Mr. Elliot Stock of London. The season here dealt with has not been a sensational one; but a number of important collections, such as those of the late Mr. Truman and Sir Henry Irving, were disposed of, and the prices realized showed a very fair average. Full descriptive entries of over seven thousand items are recorded. The excellent editorial judgment and wide bibliographical knowledge displayed in the preparation of "Book Prices Current" are too well known to call for comment here. For the librarian and collector it is an invaluable reference work; to the bookseller it is quite indispensable.

A work much needed, not by students alone, but by general readers as well, has been done by Professor Arthur G. Canfield in his selection from the "Poems of Victor Hugo" (Holt). Although the book is published as an educational text, with the usual apparatus of introduction and notes, we hope that it will find its way into the hands of many people who are out of school, for the work of the greatest of French poets is scattered through so many volumes that English readers have scant chance of knowing it at all, unless they avail themselves of the sort of help Mr. Canfield offers them. The various volumes of the poems are taken in their chronological order, and from each of them a brief but judicious selection is made.

From the Librairie Sansaisha, Tokyo, we have a "Dictionnaire d'Histoire et de Géographie du Japon," a substantial volume of a thousand pages with three hundred cuts, the work of M. E. Papinot. The words "history" and "geography" are hardly adequate to describe the contents of this work, which is also a biographical dictionary and a compact encyclopædia of most Japanese matters. It contains articles, for example, upon such subjects as Bushido and Harakiri, to name two of those most familiar to Western readers. An appendix of eleven "Cartes Géographiques," which are excellent specimens of cartography, comes with the work as a separate pamphlet, not having been completed in time for their insertion in the bound volume.

"Original Narratives of Early American History" is the title of a new collection of reprints, fathered by the American Historical Association, and published by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons. The first volume has for its subject "The Northmen, Columbus, and Cabot," the editing of the Norse texts being the work of Professor Julius E. Olson, and that of the Columbus and Cabot texts being done by Professor Edward G. Bourne. The volume could not have fallen into more competent hands than these. The second volume gives us "Early English and French Voyages," largely taken from Hakluyt, and covering the period from Cartier's first journey up the St. Lawrence to the ill-fated Popham Colony. In between, we have the voyages of Hawkins and Gilbert, and the early voyages to Virginia. Dr. Henry S. Burrage is the editor of this volume.

NOTES.

A translation, by Mr. Charles Henry Meltzer, of Hauptmann's play "Hannele" is announced for early publication by Messrs. Doubleday, Page & Co.

A volume on François Rabelais by Mr. Arthur Tilley, Fellow and Lecturer of King's College, Cambridge, will be published this month by Messrs. Lippincott Co. in their "French Men of Letters" series.

"The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius," in Mr. John Jackson's translation, with an introduction by Mr. Charles Begg, is now added to the "Oxford Library of Translations," published by Mr. Henry Frowde.

The February publications of Messrs. Duffield & Company include a new novel by Charles Egbert Craddock entitled "The Windfall," and a volume on "The Spirit of Labor" by Mr. Hutchins Hapgood.

The interesting articles on Jay Cooke and the nancing of the Civil War, now appearing in the "Century Magazine," will be included in the forthcoming Life of Cooke by Dr. Ellis P. Oberholtzer, announced by Messrs. George W. Jacobs & Co.

"The Horizon," "a journal of the color line," is a little monthly publication written and printed by negroes, the first number of which has recently appeared. Professor W. E. B. Du Bois is associated with the enterprise, which has its offices in Washington, D. C.

The series of common-sense health articles in the "World's Work," by Dr. Luther H. Gulick, which have attracted a great deal of attention, will be embodied with many others in a book, entitled, "The Active Life," which Messrs. Doubleday, Page & Co. will bring out in February.

Messrs. Henry Holt & Co. have concluded arrangements to publish this year a new novel by William de Morgan, whose "Joseph Vance" has received such remarkable praise from leading critics both here and abroad. The new book (about which no particulars have as yet been given out) will bear the rather striking title "Alice for Short."

The Harpers have arranged for publication during 1907 new books by President Roosevelt, William Dean Howells, Sir Gilbert Parker, Mark Twain, Norman Duncan, Mary E. Wilkins Freeman, Robert Hichens, Margaret Potter, Henry James, May Sinclair, Theodore Watts-Dunton, Thomas A. Janvier, Frederick Trevor Hill, Gertrude Atherton, Florence Morse Kingsley, and numerous others.

The second volume of the "Cambridge English Classics" edition of Matthew Prior, to be published by the Messrs. Putnam this spring, will increase the known works of this writer by nearly a fifth. The hitherto unprinted prose "Dialogues," seen and praised by Pope but not hitherto allowed to be printed, will, by the kind permission of the Marquis of Bath, be included in the new volume, which, in addition to this, will contain a large number of hitherto unprinted poems by Prior.

"Sex and Society: Studies in the Social Psychology of Sex," by Professor William I. Thomas, will be published at once by the University of Chicago Press. Some of the chapters comprising this work excited wide-spread discussion upon their first publication in the "American Journal of Sociology." Another book to be issued immediately by the same press is Mr. J. Dorsey Forrest's "Development of Western Civilization," a study in ethical, economic, and political evolution.

Two biographical works of unusual interest announced for early publication by the Macmillan Co. are "The Life and Letters of Edwin Lawrence Godkin," by Mr. Rollo Ogden, editor of the "New York Evening Post"; and a volume on Emerson, by Professor George E. Woodberry, in the "English Men of Letters" series.

Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will celebrate the centenary of Longfellow's birth on February 27 by publishing a volume entitled "Henry Wadsworth Longfellow: A Sketch of His Life," by Professor Charles Eliot Norton. The autobiographical matter included in the poet's notes written for the later editions of his poems, his correspondence, and his journals, will be laid under contribution for this book.

The March announcements of Messrs. T. Y. Crowell & Co. include the following: "The Ministry of David Baldwin," a novel dealing with the conflict between old school theologians and modern critics, by Mr. Henry T. Colestock; "Orthodox Socialism," by Professor James Edward Le Rossignol, of the University of Denver; "Christ's Secret of Happiness," by Dr. Lyman Abbott; "The Greatest Fact in Modern History," by Hon. Whitelaw Reid; "The Religious Value of the Old Testament," by Professor Ambrose White Vernon, of Dartmouth College.

The following well-known authors will contribute new books to the spring list of Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co.: Kate Douglas Wiggin, author of "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm"; Norah Davis, author of "The Northerner"; Ellen Olney Kirk, author of "Our Lady Vanity"; Mrs. M. E. M. Davis, author of "The Little Chevalier"; Andy Adams, author of "The Log of a Cowboy"; Edward Waldo Emerson, editor of the "Centenary" edition of Ralph Waldo Emerson's works; and Thomas Wentworth Higginson, author of "Part of a Man's Life."

A uniform handy-volume edition of the great writers of fiction, issued at a low price, has long been a desideratum. Such a series is now announced by Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co., who will publish early next fall the first ten volumes of a dollar-a-volume series of reprints from Dickens, Thackeray, Scott, George Eliot, and others, printed from new plates and issued under the general name of "The Prairie Classics." The volumes are to be the handy size of 4½ x 7¼ inches; the type used is the excellent "Scotch face" made by the Miller & Richard foundry at Edinburgh; and the paper is the famous English "Bible" paper. Each volume will have a frontispiece in colors from the brush of Mr. George Alfred Williams. These first ten titles will be followed during 1908 by another group, and the plan contemplates eventually completing each group.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[*The following list, containing 63 titles, includes books received by* THE DIAL *since its last issue.*]

BIOGRAPHY.

The Life, Letters and Work of Frederic Leighton. By Mrs. Russell Barrington. In 2 vols., illus. in photogravure, color, etc., large 8vo, gilt tops, uncut. Macmillan Co. $10.50 net.

Queen Margot, Wife of Henry of Navarre. By H. Noel Williams. With photogravure portraits, 4to, gilt top, uncut, pp. 409. Charles Scribner's Sons. $7.50 net.

Birket Foster, R.W.S. By H. M. Cundall, I.S.O. Illus. in color, etc., large 8vo, gilt top, pp. 216. Macmillan Co. $6. net.

HISTORY.

English Colonies in America. By J. A. Doyle, M.A. Vol. IV., The Middle Colonies; Vol. V., The Colonies under the House of Hanover. Each 8vo. Henry Holt & Co. Per vol., $3.50.

The History of England, from the Accession of Henry VII. to the Death of Henry VIII. (1485-1547). By H. A. L. Fisher, M.A. With map, large 8vo, pp. 518. Longmans, Green & Co. $2.60 net.

The Appeal to Arms. By James Kendall Hosmer, LL.D. With maps, 8vo, gilt top, pp. 354. "American Nation." Harper & Brothers. $2. net.

The Great Days of Versailles: Studies from Court Life in the Later Years of Louis XIV. By G. F. Bradby. With portraits in photogravure, etc., 8vo, pp. 384. Charles Scribner's Sons. $1.75 net.

ESSAYS AND GENERAL LITERATURE.

The Censorship of the Church of Rome and its Influence upon the Production and the Distribution of Literature. By George Haven Putnam, Litt.D. Vol. I., large 8vo, gilt top, pp. 375. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2.50 net.

A Literary History of the English People. By J. J. Jusserand. Vol. II., Part I., From the Renaissance to the Civil War. With photogravure frontispiece, large 8vo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 551. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $3.50 net.

Literature of Libraries in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries. Edited by John Cotton Dana and Henry W. Kent. New vols.: Sir Thomas Bodley's Life of Himself, and Two Tracts on the Founding and Maintaining of Parochial Libraries in Scotland. Each 18mo, uncut. A. C. McClurg & Co. Sold only in sets of 6 vols. at $12. net.

Shelburne Essays, Fourth Series. By Paul Elmer More. 12mo, pp. 283. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.25 net.

The Voice of the Machines: An Introduction to the Twentieth Century. By Gerald Stanley Lee. 12mo, pp. 190. Northampton, Mass.: Mount Tom Press. $1.25.

The Praise of Hypocrisy: An Essay in Casuistry. By G. T. Knight, D.D. New edition, with a Preface by D. L. Maulsby; 16mo, pp. 85. Open Court Publishing Co.

Sources and Analogues of "The Flower and the Leaf": A Dissertation. By George L. Marsh. Large 8vo, pp. 47. University of Chicago Press. Paper.

NEW EDITIONS OF STANDARD LITERATURE.

The Collected Works of Henrik Ibsen. Copyright edition; revised and edited by William Archer. Vol. III., Brand. 12mo, pp. 262. Charles Scribner's Sons. $1.

Medea, Trojan Women, and Electra of Euripides. Trans. into English Rhyming Verse, with Notes, by Gilbert Murray, M.A. 12mo, gilt top. Oxford University Press.

Herodotus, Histories—Books I. to III. Trans. by G. Woodrouffe Harris, B.A. 12mo, pp. 225. "New Classical Library." Macmillan Co.

Cobbett's English Grammar. With Introduction by H. L. Stephen. New edition; 12mo, gilt top, pp. 232. London: Henry Frowde. 90 cts. net.

BOOKS OF VERSE.

Holiday, and Other Poems; with a Note on Poetry. By John Davidson. 18mo, gilt top, uncut, pp. 156. E. P. Dutton & Co. $1. net.

Easter-Song: Lyrics and Ballads of the Joy of Spring-time. By Clinton Scollard. 12mo, uncut, pp. 64. Clinton, N. Y.: George William Browning. $1.25.

The Heart of a Woman. By Almon Hensley. 12mo, gilt top, pp. 174. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

FICTION.

By the Light of the Soul. By Mary E. Wilkins Freeman. Illus., 12mo, pp. 498. Harper & Brothers. $1.50.

The Mystery. By Stewart Edward White and Samuel Hopkins Adams. Illus., 12mo, pp. 286. McClure, Phillips & Co. $1.50.

The Patriot (Piccolo Mondo Antico). By Antonio Fogazzaro; trans. from the Italian by M. Prichard-Agnetti. 12mo, pp. 516. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.50.

The Privateers. By H. B. Marriott Watson. Illus., 12mo, pp. 395. Doubleday, Page & Co. $1.50.

The Second Generation. By David Graham Phillips. Illus., 12mo, pp. 328. D. Appleton & Co. $1.50.

The Sovereign Remedy. By Flora Annie Steel. 12mo, pp. 349. Doubleday, Page & Co. $1.50.

Bettina. By Eleanor Hoyt Brainerd. Illus. in color, etc., 12mo, pp. 212. Doubleday, Page & Co. $1.25.

The Crucible of Circumstance. By Percy James Brebner. Illus., 12mo, pp. 389. Frederick Warne & Co. $1.50.

The Mystery of Margaret. By Opie Read. Illus., 12mo, gilt top, pp. 321. Chicago: Thompson & Thomas. $1.50.

TRAVEL AND DESCRIPTION.

On the Great American Plateau: Wanderings among Canyons and Buttes, in the Land of the Cliff-Dweller, and the Indian of To-day. By T. Mitchell Prudden. Illus., 12mo, gilt top, pp. 243. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2. net.

Hunting Big Game with Gun and Kodak: A Record of Personal Experiences in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. By William S. Thomas. Illus., 8vo, gilt top, pp. 240. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2. net.

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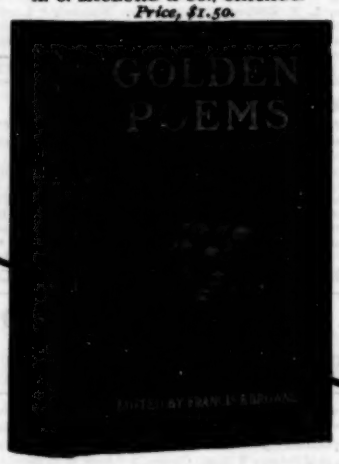

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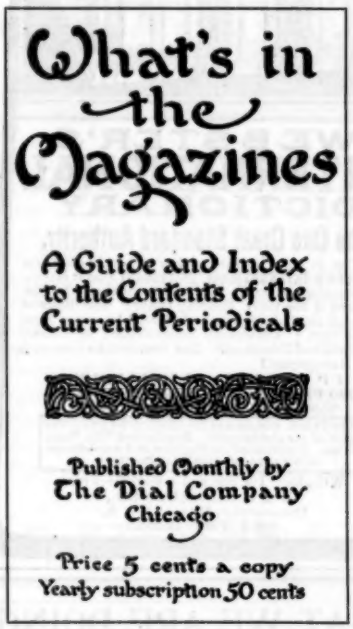

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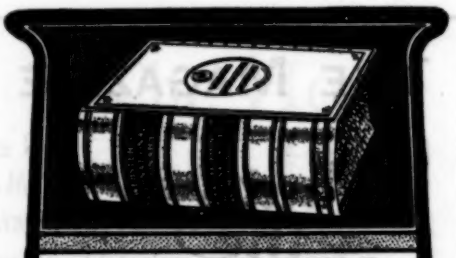

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